

60. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 54, wherein the fluorescent whitening agent is selected from the group consisting of disodium 4,4'-bis(2-sulfostyryl)biphenyl, 4,4'-bis(2-sulfostyryl)biphenyl, disodium 4,4'-bis(3-sulfo-4-chlorostyryl)biphenyl, disodium 4,4'-bis[(4-anilino-6-morpholino-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl)amino]stilbene-2,2'-disulfonate, disodium 4,4'-bis[(4-anilino-6-(N-methyl-N-2-hydroxyethyl)amino-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl)amino]stilbene-2,2'-disulfonate, and disodium 4,4'-bis[(4-anilino-6-methylamino-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl)amino]stilbene-2,2'-disulfonate.

61. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 54, comprising a first stage in which the additional tooth whitening agent is applied by a dental surgeon, and a second stage in which the fluorescent whitening agent and the additional tooth whitening agent are applied, simultaneously or sequentially, by the patient.

62. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 61, wherein in the first stage the additional tooth whitening agent is applied first, followed by a fluorescent whitening agent.

63. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 60, wherein in the second stage, the additional tooth whitening agent and the fluorescent whitening agent are applied simultaneously.

Remarks

In response to the outstanding Restriction Requirement, the applicants hereby elect Group I, namely claims 33-53, drawn to a method for improving or enhancing the appearance of teeth.

This election is with traverse, as claim 34 has been amended in order to clearly set forth the fact that this claim encompasses the application of a bis-styrylbiphenyl compound having the indicated chromophore system, and optionally the application to the teeth being whitened of an additional tooth whitening agent, with the later being administered either simultaneously or sequentially with the bis-styrylbiphenyl compounds. Accordingly, claim 54 falls entirely within the scope of claim 34, in a generic-subgeneric relationship, and thus the two groups of claims share a common special technical feature under PCT Rule 13.1. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is believed in order and is requested.

In response to the Election of Species requirement, the applicants elect the fluorescent whitening agents of claim 39.

Early and favorable action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

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